

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 OMB-01 GAC-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01

RSR-01 NEA-10 /094 W

----- 054939

O 291603 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5825

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, OGEN, YO

SUBJECT: FRONT ATTACK ON VOA: CORRECTION OF RECORD

REF: BELGRADE 1271; 1250

1. ALTHOUGH FRONT APPEARS WITH FRIDAY DATELINE, USUALLY AVAILABLE THURSDAY AFTERNOON. ATTEMPTS OBTAIN COPY SO FAR UNSUCCESSFUL AND BORBA PRINTING PLANT WHICH PRODUCES IT STATES RUNNING BEHIND ON PRINTING SCHEDULE AND WON'T BE AVAILABLE UNTIL TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

2. MEANWHILE, PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNSELOR RECEIVED HAND-DELIVERED LETTER TODAY FROM EDITOR FRONT STATING THAT CORRECTION WILL APPEAR IN TOMORROW'S ISSUE ON PAGE 3. LETTER STATES MENTION OF VOICE OF AMERICA WAS RESULT OF "STYLLSTIC IMPRECISION" WHICH RESULTED IN USE OF TERM "VOICE OF AMERICA" INSTEAD OF "VOICES FROM AMERICA"* AS EXAMPLES OF LATTER, LETTER LISTS PAGE- AND- HALF OF CASES IN WHICH PRIVATE AMERICAN RTV STATIONS HAVE AIRED "RUDE ATTACKS AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA." FIRST EXAMPLE CITED IS ABC TV NETWORK TELECAST OF APRIL 16, 1972 ON WHICH "THE WELL- KNOWN EXTREMIST

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MIROSLAV GAL WAS ALLOWED TO COMMENT ON THE HIJACKING OF THE SWEDISH AIRPLANE AND TO REPRESENT THE USTASHI TERRORISTS AS FIGHTERS FOR FREE CROATIA." OTHER EXAMPLES PRIMARILY INCLUDE LOCAL AND EMIGRE STATIONS CHICAGO- CLEVELAND- NEW YORK AREAS.

3. EDITOR CONCLUDES BY STATING, " IN THE CORRECTION, I HAVE NOT HONORED THE REQUEST OF THE AUTHOR OF THE ARTICLE IN OUR PUBLICATION THAT THESE FACTS BE PUBLICIZED AS A COMPLETE EXPLANATION OF WHAT HE MEANT IN USING TERM ' VOICS FROM AMERICA', SINCE MY DESIRE IS THAT THIS AFFAIR BE CONCLUDED WITH PUBLICATION OF THE CORRECTION. HERE I HAVE IN MIND THAT IF ALL OF THE FACTS WERE TO BE PUBLISHED WHICH I HAVE INCLUDED IN THIS LETTER, OUR PUBLIC AND THE WORLD PUBLIC WOULD BE VERY AROUSED, ALL OF WHICH CERTAINLY WOULD NOT BE CONDUCIVE TO A FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF MUTUAL RELATIONS, WHICH ALSO YOU DESIRE."

4. DCM MENTIONED LETTER TO AMERICAS DIRECTOR KREACIC TODAY. KREACIC RESPONDED HE AWARE OF LETTER AND CONSIDERED IT SATISFACTORY RESPONSE TO EMBASSY DESIRE FOR CORRECTION.

5. COMMENT: WILL SEND TEXT TO CORRECTION AS SOON AS AVAILABLE. MEANTIME, ALTHOUGH FRONT EXPLANATION OF ERROR EXCEEDINGLY WEAK, ESPECIALLY SINCE ATTACK LINKED VOA WITH RADIO MADRID, NOT " VOICES FROM SPAIN", EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT IT AT LEAST IS INDICATION OF MEASURE OF GOOD WILL AND JOURNALISTIC INTEGRITY IN PUBLISHING CORRECTION. MOREOVER, IN NOT PUBLISHING LENGTHY ATTACK ON DOMESTIC U. S. STATIONS ALLEGEDLY UTILIZED BY EMIGRES IN ATTACKING YUGOSLAVIA, YUGOSLAVS HAVE GIVEN CLEAR INDICATION OF DESIRE TO LAY ISSUE TO REST. THUS, SEE NO MERIT IN PURSUING OR PUBLICIZING MATTER FURTHER OTHER THAN POSSIBLE COMMENT ON CLEARANCE ITS NAME BY VOA ONCE TEXT FRONT CORRECTION BECOMES AVAILABLE AND IS CONFIRMED.
TOON

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BELGRA01339
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730340/aaaaikpw.tel
Line Count: 103
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BELGRADE 1271, 73 BELGRADE 1250
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <15-Oct-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980107
Subject: FRONT ATTACK ON VOA: CORRECTION OF RECORD
TAGS: OGEN, PFOR, YO
To: EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC
USIA
ZAGREB
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005